

John Shimkus had a busy first day in Washington, D.C. — voting for House speaker and being sworn in.

Page 3A

The Press-Record presents its annual tribute to those who have left us during the last year.

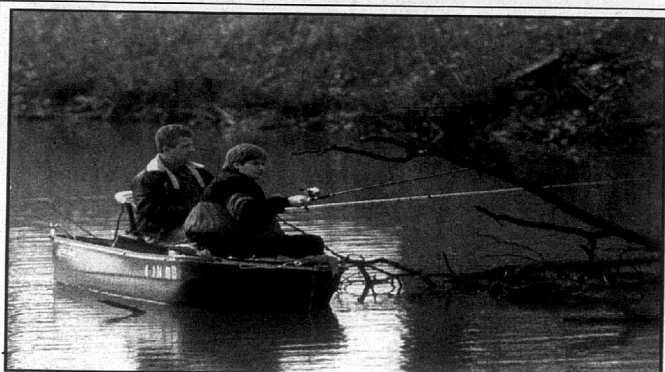
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Granite City Press-Record

VOLUME 95, NUMBER 2

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1997

(USPS226-160) FIFTY CENTS



(Staff photo by JOHN FRESE)

Gone fishing — A Pontoon Beach couple took advantage of the record high temperatures last week to take their boat out on Long Lake for the year's first fishing expedition.

End to sticker program sought

By Bob Slato
Staff writer

Granite City residents will not have to purchase stickers from the city to put on their vehicles if Mayor Ron Selph and City Clerk Judy Whitaker have their way.

On Tuesday, Selph and Whitaker presented the City Council's Finance Committee a plan to eliminate the city's vehicle sticker program.

The city has collected a "wheel tax" for at least 50 years, said Alderman Walter Milton, chairman of the City Council's Finance Committee.

The current fees are \$5 per car and \$10 per truck. Senior citizens pay \$1.

The sticker program generated an average of nearly \$100,000 in each of the last three years, according to City Comptroller K.P. MacTasgard.

Expenses, such as the cost of stickers, postage and labor, brought the city's annual net revenue from the program to about \$78,000.

"I do think this would be good for the residents."

— Judy Whitaker
City Clerk

Both Selph and Whitaker said the revenue lost by eliminating the program would be offset by reduced expenses and by anticipated increases in other revenue sources, and thus would not result in the need to raise the property tax rate.

They also said the program's deletion would eliminate the inconvenience it places on residents.

"Judy and I have talked this over and we recommend this be done for the benefit of the community," Selph said.

(See STICKERS, Page 2A)

Aery named new county treasurer

By Nicole Vaughn
Staff writer

Madison County replaced former Treasurer John Shimkus Wednesday and now faces the task of naming a new board member.

Longtime board member Bill Aery, R-Godfrey, was sworn in as treasurer during a special meeting of the board Wednesday morning. Fellow Godfrey resident and newly selected Circuit Judge J. Lawrence Keshner administered the oath of office.

Aery, who has served on the board for 14 years, was appointed by Board Chairman Rudy Papa. Aery succeeds Shimkus of Collinsville, who had served as treasurer for six years before being elected U.S. representative for the 20th District in November.

Aery, who will turn 66 later this month, said he was "sort of surprised and thrilled" by his appointment. He said he learned Monday that he had the job.

"It will be a new experience,

but I'm looking forward to it," he said.

Aery has lived in Godfrey for 30 years. He holds a degree in industrial management from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and had worked at Alton Pepsi Cola for 35 years. He was vice president of marketing when he retired in 1989.

While on the board, Aery has served on the buildings committee for 14 years, the tax cycle committee for 13 years and the legislative committee for eight years — experience that will serve him well in the job, Papa said.

"His business background and his tax cycle committee experience will help him with his job," Papa said. "Mr. Aery will be an asset to the citizens of Madison County."

Shimkus and other Republican leaders had nominated Chief Deputy Treasurer Wes Tucker for the job. But Papa said he had wanted Shimkus' replacement to have been chosen by the people — or at least part of



(Staff photo by JOHN SWISTAK JR.)

Madison County Circuit Judge J. Lawrence Keshner, left, swears in new County Treasurer Bill Aery, right, while Board Chairman Rudy Papa looks on.

them. Aery was re-elected to his board seat in November.

"I really wanted somebody who had been elected by the people and Mr. Aery was, at least in his district," Papa said. "I felt that was important."

Aery said he will run for treasurer in 1998, when the current term expires. He said he has submitted a list of names of possible candidates for his board seat to Papa.

Horses shot; reward offered

One survives shot to head

By Bob Slato
Staff writer

A Pontoon Beach businessman is offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of whomever shot two Tennessee Walking horses in the head Saturday night.

One of the horses, a 7-month-old colt, was killed instantly by a single shot in the head. The other, the colt's mother, was shot once in the head and once in the neck, but survived and was doing well Wednesday.

The Madison County Sheriff's Department is investigating the case. Anyone with information should call the sheriff's office anonymous tip line at 692-1140 or detectives at 692-0871.

Other animals on the farm were also shot or released, Nonn said.

The horses were inside a barn surrounded by a tall chain-link fence with a security gate when they were shot with a small-caliber weapon, sometime between 6 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Detective Steve Nonn said.

The owners of the animals — a Pontoon Beach couple who asked not to be identified — recently purchased the mare and colt for about \$15,000. They were keeping the horses in a friend's barn until the spring, when they planned to build one of their own.

"We bought the mare because it was his mother. He was the one we really wanted. He was really special," one of the owners

(See HORSES, Page 8A)

Township program expensive

By Bob Slato
Staff writer

Granite City Township spent more than \$81,000 in administrative expenses to give out less than \$45,000 in aid to needy individuals in the first 10 months of its fiscal year, according to the latest records from the township's general assistance program.

The township's general assistance fund is earmarked for providing assistance in the form of rent, utilities, food and medicine for needy individuals.

The program is funded through property taxes.

The general assistance program employs three full-time workers: a recep-

tionist, intake worker and bookkeeper/caseworker. The 1996-97 budget — which runs from March 1 through Feb. 28 — calls for salaries totaling \$120,000 for those workers.

The budget also anticipates giving out \$29,000 in general assistance in the form of food (\$30,000), rent (\$17,000), utility

(See PROGRAMS, Page 2A)

In the Press-Record

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5 FORECAST

John Fuller, Meteorologist, KSDK-News Channel 5

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
37 18	19 9	16 8	19 10

Faces

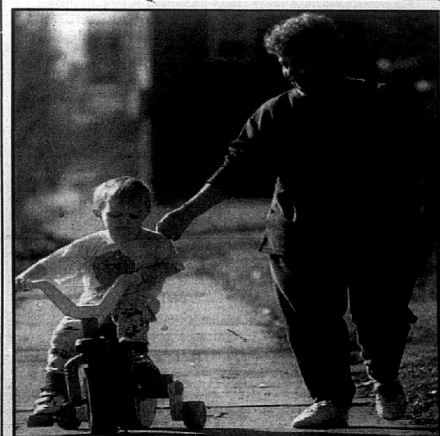
Terry J. Peek has been hired as regional executive director of Children's Home and Aid Society of Illinois.

Peek, 48, has more than 26 years of experience in human services. He holds master's degrees in social work and business administration, and has served as executive director of Care and Counseling Inc.; executive director of Childhaven Inc.; deputy director of the Illinois Department of Alcohol and Substance Abuse; and executive director of the Madison County Mental Health Center.

CHASI provides foster care, adoption, child referral, day care and individual and family counseling programs in southwestern Illinois.



Terry Peek



(Staff photo by JOHN FRESE)

Big wheel — Devon Desper, 2, rides his big wheel down Madison Avenue while spending the afternoon with his grandmother, Freda Kraus, during one of last week's unusually warm days.

LOCAL NEWS

Drive enters final weekend

Partney about 800 signatures short on township referendum

By Bob Slate
Staff writer

Mayoral candidate David Partney needs some assistance if a township referendum is going to be placed on the April 1 ballot in Granite City.

"I don't have a political organization. I've got people helping me, but time is running out," Partney said Tuesday.

Partney hopes to have the following question placed on the ballot: "Shall township organization be continued in the city and township of Granite City?"

"If people want to see that on the ballot, I need some help," Partney said.

About 1,800 signatures of registered voters are required on petitions that must be filed Monday to place the question on the April 1 ballot.

Partney said Monday he was about 800 signatures short of his goal of 2,000 signatures.

Candidates for office have an extra

week — until Jan. 21 — to file nominating petitions to have their names placed on the ballot.

Partney has said that services currently provided by the township could be offered more efficiently by the city or county government.

"Most people I talk with agree with me. But a lot of them are unwilling to do any of the leg work," Partney said. "And I can't do it alone."

Persons willing to volunteer to pass petitions or wishing to help in other ways should call Partney at 931-6751 or 452-VOTE (9363).

Partney failed in an attempt last year to get the referendum on the November ballot. A township employee challenged his petitions and the town electoral board — comprised of three elected township officials who all receive paychecks from the township — upheld the challenge.

Partney said he had no problem getting enough signatures on his petitions to have

his name placed on the ballot as a candidate for mayor.

"But it takes three times that number to get a referendum on the ballot," he said.

An independent professional management review of Granite City and Granite City Township operations released in 1995 — commonly referred to as the "Melville Study" — recommends elimination of the township form of government.

The study found Granite City Township "costly, redundant and unnecessary" and recommended eliminating the township and reducing the tax levy.

Partney has estimated the potential savings to taxpayers at \$100,000.

Township Assessor Darlene Laub has said that the services should continue to be provided locally and that there would be little savings — if any — realized by eliminating the township.

•Programs

(Continued from Page 1A)

payments (\$13,000), medical expenses (\$5,000) such as prescriptions or doctor bills, hospitalization (\$1,000) and funeral expenses (\$3,000).

But from March 1 through Dec. 31, only \$42,274 had been given out to needy individuals, according to a report filed Tuesday.

During the same period, salaries totaling \$80,640 had been paid to administer the program. Nearly \$500 had also been spent on furniture or equipment for program administration.

The administration expense figure — nearly twice the amount of actual assistance provided to the needy — does not include building expenses, such as janitorial service or maintenance, nor benefits paid on the workers' behalf, such as health insurance or retirement benefits.

Those are paid from a separate fund.

•Stickers

(Continued from Page 1A)

Whitaker said collections of other fees, such as those for business and vending machine licenses, have improved considerably over the last two years and more than offset the loss.

"I do think this would be good for the residents," Whitaker said.

But some aldermen were less enthusiastic about losing the revenue the city sticker program generates.

Alderman Bob Page said he would support the proposal if he can be assured it will not necessitate a property tax increase.

"I'm all for everything that will benefit the citizens," Page said. "But at no time down the road do I want this to lead to a tax increase."

Alderman Walter Milton, chairman of the Finance Committee, agreed.

"I certainly pay all of the taxes I feel I should pay," Milton said. "I don't want my taxes to increase because of this."

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News in review

News in review provides a summary of some of the past week's stories. This column is designed for out-of-town readers who do not receive the Sunday and Wednesday Press-Record/Journals.

Teen's death prompts outcry

Tyrell "T.J." James was a popular boy who got along well with his fellow students and was given the title "class clown" by his teachers at Madison High School.

But the Venice teen's good nature and popularity could not prevent his tragic death by a single gunshot to the head early New Year's morning.

Although several people in the 300 block of Baucum Avenue were reportedly discharging firearms just after midnight Jan. 1 to celebrate the new year, police are treating the death as a homicide, Venice Police Chief James Newsome said.

T.J., 17, was reportedly wearing a bullet-proof vest at the time he was shot in the head.

The death came just two weeks after the body of Marcus White, a former track star from Venice, was pulled from Horseshoe Lake.

Many names on city ballot

Nearly all incumbent elected officeholders in Granite City and Granite City Township will face challenges in the April 1 election.

As of Monday in the city, incumbent Treasurer Gail Valle, 2nd Ward Alderman Craig Tarpo and 1st Ward Alderman Casmer Skulish were the only three elected officials who did not yet have potential opposition come forward to pick up election petitions.

Chairman's brother hired

Madison County Board Chairman Rudy Papa is defending the recent hiring of his brother as a department supervisor, saying he knows of no nepotism policy that would have prevented it.

Joe Papa, 57, of Granite City, started work last Monday as supervisor of the Special Sewer District at an annual salary of \$31,385.

Pontoon juggles finances

Borrowing from Peter to pay Paul is not always a wise decision, according to conventional wisdom.

Nonetheless, the village of Pontoon Beach will borrow from its Tourism Fund — to which it already owes \$30,000 — to repay half of the \$54,600 it owes to its Motor Fuel Tax Fund.

The village's indebtedness to the MFT fund is the result of two problems, according to a letter from the Illinois Department of Transportation: failure over the past six years to deposit three allotment checks from IDOT — totaling nearly \$19,000 — into the proper account; and a \$35,597 payment to Sheppard Morgan & Schwaab, the village's engineering firm, from its MFT account without first obtaining the requisite engineering agreements with IDOT.

Mayors OK TIF plan at port

Mayors of the three cities in the Tri-Cities Area are cooperating in order to promote development that can benefit the entire region.

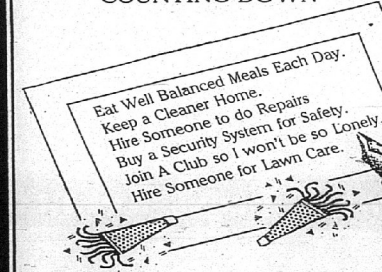
Mayors Tyrone Echols of Venice and John Belkoff of Madison agreed Friday night to let Granite City annex a portion of the Tri-City Regional Port to establish a tax increment finance district designed to attract industrial development along Illinois 3.

Belkoff and Echols agreed to the annexation proposal Friday night after Granite City officials and Alan Orth, executive director of the Southwest Illinois Development Authority, presented a tax increment finance plan to the commissioners of the Tri-City Regional Port and about 20 other elected and appointed community officials.

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Shimkus joins vote in favor of Gingrich

Former Madison County Treasurer John Shimkus was one of 216 Congressmen to cast a vote Tuesday in favor of retaining U.S. Rep. Newt Gingrich, R-Georgia, as speaker of the house.

Like all his Democratic colleagues, U.S. Rep. Jerry Costello voted for Democratic leader Dick Gephardt of Missouri.

The vote on Gingrich was one of Shimkus' first actions as a new Republican lawmaker after the swearing in ceremony about 2:30 p.m. at the U.S. Capitol. Shimkus, in a hurried phone interview, said the day was packed with things to do.

"It was busy, very busy," he said. "I was juggling my family with my responsibilities all day. I had the kids out on the floor with me during the vote."

The day started at 7:30 a.m. with a family tour of the White House. Shimkus and his wife, Karen, of Collinsville, participated with sons David, 4, and Joshua, 20 months.

After a church service at 9 a.m. and a conference meeting at 10 a.m., he joined other House members for votes on rules and the

speaker. Shimkus said previously that he had thought long about voting for Gingrich and was finally convinced to support him after a phone conversation with the speaker Friday.

Gingrich has been the center of controversy because of admitted ethical violations regarding improper use of tax-exempt organizations to further political goals.

"I had about 10 people say they wanted me to vote for him, and about four say they didn't," Shimkus said.

Only 10 Republicans voted for other candidates or voted as "present." The final vote was 216 for Gingrich, and 205 for Democratic Leader Dick Gephardt of Missouri.

Shimkus said his first day was enlightening. "It's a very hurried place, you have to wear slippers so you can move quickly," he said. "Regardless of our differences, everybody is trying to do the best thing for the country."

Meanwhile, State Rep. Jay Hoffman, the Collinsville Democrat who was elected last November, has said he will not ask for a

(See SHIMKUS, Page 8A)



Walkin' — Jason Yakubovich, 10, right, gets ready to try to skip a flat stone while walking along the bank of the Mississippi River with his father, John. The pair, who are from Troy, saw people fishing on the gravel bar below the Chain of Rocks while passing over the river on Interstate 270 and decided to see how to get there.

(Staff photo by JOHN FRESE)

New section of jail nearing completion

Lockers are being installed this week in the new section of the Madison County Jail, marking the home stretch of the \$4.9 million building expansion and improvement project.

Madison County Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Capt. Robert Hertz said the new cellblock will open in about three weeks without fanfare.

Workers began Monday assembling 300 lockers that arrived in hundreds of pieces "like a giant Erector set," said Hertz.

Once the crew puts the lockers together, they will be installed in the new cellblock.

The one-foot-square metal lockers will hold prisoners' belongings while they are in the jail.

When opened, the new section will increase the jail's capacity to 280 prisoners from 200. The jail, 405 Randle St., was built in 1979 with an ideal housing capacity of 150 prisoners.

In recent years the jail population has burgeoned. Some prisoners have blamed overcrowding for violence that has erupted from time to time.

The new cellblock will increase the overall jail capacity to 225 men and 55 women, up from 175 men and 25 women.

Hertz said workers are touching up the paint in the new area, welding new bunk beds and making sure the locks work perfectly.

"We have to make sure all of the bugs are worked out. We don't want to see the prisoners walking out of here," Hertz said of the security system.

Another big part of the improvement project was replacing the roof over the jail and Sheriff's Department. Until recently, rain leaked — and sometimes poured — into the building.

"It appears to be gone," Hertz said of the leaking problem. "It's a welcome relief."

The project has run months behind schedule, making the sometimes wet working conditions even more frustrating for employees.

— The Telegraph

Echols lauds TIF expansion plan

Proposal would mean 'businesses, buildings, jobs,' mayor says

By Michelle Duell
Staff writer

The executive director of the Tri-City Regional Port District in Granite City will give a formal presentation soon to the Venice City Council regarding proposed expansion of the district along Illinois 3, Venice Mayor Tyrone Echols said Tuesday at the community's city council meeting.

"It will probably be in the next six weeks or couple of months," said Bob Wydra, executive director of the port district.

Echols and Madison Mayor John Bellico agreed Friday after a presentation of the proposal to let Granite City annex a portion of the Tri-City Regional Port and establish a

tax increment financing district to attract industrial development along Illinois 3.

"It looks like we could be getting something good after years of hard labor," Echols said Tuesday night. "If they expand here, it means businesses, buildings and jobs."

Venice, which has been

"It looks like we could be getting something good after years of hard labor."

— Tyrone Echols
Venice Mayor

suffering financially for years, would especially benefit from the expansion, because the tax base would increase.

Granite City officials and Alan Orbitalis, executive director of the Southwestern Illinois Development Authority, presented the TIF proposal to Echols and Bellico and commissioners of the Tri-City Regional Port last week.

Part of the port property targeted for annexation is an undeveloped area just north of the existing harbor, which is scheduled for a \$12-million, federally funded expansion of between 1,800 and 5,000 feet.

The proposed district would be located on the Chain of Rocks Canal west of the highway near Madison and Venice.

The expansion not only would benefit the entire region, but would benefit the port, which has no where else to expand, Northgate Industrial Park along Illinois 3 in Madison and St. Clair counties has been a major industrial site for the port district, but the park is full, the officials said.

Granite City already is in the process of establishing a TIF district along the highway to spur industrial development.

In a TIF district, property taxes are redirected for a specific period of time. The taxes already being generated within the district are frozen at their existing level, and future property taxes above that level are withheld for improvements in the TIF district.

The TIF district would be formed under the Industrial Jobs Recovery Act, designed to provide jobs in high unemployment areas.

In other business, the Venice City Council changed its meeting time from 8 p.m. to 7 p.m., beginning Jan. 21. The council meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

The council also agreed to have the Mercantile Trust Co. in St. Louis pay \$46,682.98 to J.S. Alberici Construction Co. for miscellaneous steel repairs to the McKinley Bridge. The repairs were done during November.

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Opinion

Editorials

Politics stymies SIUE

(The following editorials are reprinted from The Telegraph.)

Partisan politics continues to keep Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville from getting a long-needed new engineering school.

Illinois House Democrats have blocked a Republican-sponsored proposal that would have authorized \$610 million in bonds for a variety of purposes, including \$30 million for SIUE. About \$23 million would have built a new facility for the university's engineering school.

The measure required a three-fifths majority for approval. The final vote was 69-45 in favor of approval, two short of the 71 votes required. The vote was along party lines except for one Republican and six Democrats.

Democrats who opposed the measure argued against incurring more debt when the state's credit rate is at its lowest level in years. They said the state should do a better job collecting unpaid debts.

Whatever the merit of those contentions, the key to the defeat of the package was the desire of Democrats to spite Republicans, who have held a majority in the chamber for two years.

Republican House Speaker Lee Daniels hoped to pass the measure before the new General Assembly, with a House controlled by Democrats, begins work Jan. 8.

Madison County GOP Chairman Edward Ragsdale tried to pin the blame for the bill's defeat on state Rep. Steve Davis, D-Bethalto. Davis did vote against the bill, but so did fellow Democrats Jay Hoffman of Collinsville, Gary Hannig of Staunton and 42 other House members.

Davis explained that Democrats voted against the bill because they had no input into its creation. And, heck, none of the projects were in his district, anyway.

This is what happens when partisanship reigns on both sides of the aisle. Seldom does concern for the public good distract legislators from the political games that are their favorite pursuits.

Davis said a Democratic task force is working on its own bond bill that will be introduced in the next session. It will almost certainly include the SIUE funds, he said.

Davis said he expects the Democrats' package to retain some projects in Republican held districts but add some projects from districts represented by Democrats. He said he hopes the two parties can sit down and negotiate. We do, too, but the relentless devotion to partisanship shown by both parties in recent years inspires little confidence.

Statistics defy image

Many Metro East residents are prospering financially, if a survey of the wealthiest 50 ZIP codes in the St. Louis area is any indication.

Glen Carbon, with a 1995 median household income of \$46,259, is the 22nd wealthiest community in the region and wealthiest in Metro East, according to a survey published in the *St. Louis Business Journal*.

Godfrey, with a median household income of \$41,119, is 37th in the bistate region. Other Metro East communities in the top 50: Marine, \$43,106; St. Jacob, \$43,009; Moro, \$39,776; O'Fallon, \$39,573; Trenton, \$39,467; Troy, \$39,467; and Columbia, \$39,432.

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A perception lingers that all Metro East communities are "poor." That's hardly the case.

That being said, we should also recognize that many of our communities have substantial numbers of residents who are indeed "poor," who are under-employed or unemployed even in a time of relative prosperity.

While we can take pride in the fact that many among us are living comfortably, we should not forget those who aren't.

And we should not forget the kinds of things that make a community a desirable place to live — good jobs, good schools and good public services.

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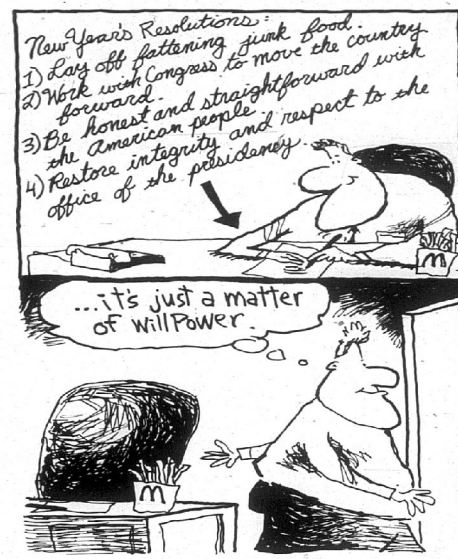


Carol Clarkin

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Enormously readable, the volume is chock full of illustrations and boxed side-car recollections of any number of local native sons and daughters.



Letters to the editor

Time for a change of heart

TO THE EDITOR:

Dr. John Nwannunu estimates that he has performed hundreds of abortions since he began his family practice at a clinic in Indiana more than two years ago.

Dr. Nwannunu called Bishop Dale J. Melczek on Nov. 15 to say that he will no longer do abortions. "You can come and get the equipment," he told the bishop.

The doctor attributed his change of heart to the coverage of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin's death that had saturated the airwaves. The doctor was moved by how he (the cardinal) handled death and by the letter the cardinal wrote to the Supreme Court against assisted suicide, prior to dying. Dr. Nwannunu stated, "Out of respect for him, I will never again do this (abortion) procedure."

The abortionist made a very courageous decision influenced by the kindness and truthfulness of one man, backed by the prayers of millions. Cardinal Bernardin's example obviously made the sanctity of all human life crystal clear in the mind of someone who profited from the opposite.

This is a perfect time to acknowledge and affirm all in this community who, through-out the past year, have worked and prayed so faithfully for the protection of vulnerable people, particularly, unborn children. It's time to be heartened and to believe that through truth, kindness and prayer, even the most unlikely will have a change of heart and mind.

I am happy for the Indiana community, for the unborn children who will not die by his hand and their moms and dads, but I am also happy for Dr. Nwannunu, for he must be experiencing a peace hardly anticipated before his gallant pledge. A happy new year to him, and to everyone who has the heart and is looking for a change of heart.

ANN POLKA
Pro Life coordinator
Belleville Diocese

Mihalich offers his thanks

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to thank all of the supporters, volunteers, contributors, family and friends for the hard work and effort they so generously put into my candidacy for state representative for the 11th District.

Your enthusiasm and determination were truly inspirational and made the long arduous campaign tolerable.

I mostly enjoyed meeting and speaking with hundreds of old and new friends all over the district, and I look forward to our paths crossing again soon.

While we did not prevail in our quest, I feel as though I won because of the thousands of voters who showed confidence in our issues by voting for me. I am eternally grateful for your statement of support.

I wish Rep. Davis the best of luck as he works to represent the citizens of the 11th District following his re-election.

JIM MIHALICH
Rosewood Heights

Continue work for future

TO THE EDITOR:

At the conclusion of a very busy campaign season for the U.S. Senate, I would like to take a moment and give thanks. My thanks to many local and regional officials who endorsed and supported me. Also, I would like to extend a special thank you to the hundreds of volunteers who put up signs, made phone calls and knocked on doors.

To my supporters as well as those of my opponent, I urge you to continue believing and working for a better tomorrow for our children.

AL SALVI
Former candidate
for U.S. Senate

Send us your letters, columns

The Granite City Press-Record/Journal welcomes both letters to the editor and guest columns.

The newspaper provides the "Letters" column to give readers an opportunity to voice opinions on various items of interest.

Letters should be brief, preferably less than 10 paragraphs. Typed letters or letters that are neatly written are given priority treatment. Preference is also given to locally originated letters, but letters from outside the area are accepted.

Each letter must be signed and include the telephone number and address of the author. Only the name and city will be printed, but authors may be called for verification purposes.

The "Opinion Shapers" column is open to those interested in writing at length on a topic of current interest. You may contact Bob Slate at 877-7700 if you are interested in submitting an article for this column.

The Granite City Press-Record/Journal reserves the right to edit letters and columns to conform with the newspaper's standards of style, punctuation, grammar and spelling. Material containing libel will not be used; the tone or intention will not be changed.

AL SALVI
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for U.S. Senate

Granite City Press-Record

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Edwardsville, especially when I recall that, initially, Ed and I had assumed that it would be any way station in which we'd spend a couple of years. As the daughter of a civil (and mining) engineer, I was accustomed to a fairly nomadic existence and presumed my life would follow that pattern. Prior to Edwardsville, I had lived in only two places long enough to become interested in the background of the small city. Fortunately for me, by then I'd met and become friendly with three women, all of whom were extremely knowledgeable in terms of area history and generous in sharing with the uninformed. The two Irenes (Mindrop and Harrell) and Judy Iselhardt came to my rescue more times than I can count, especially when I was in need of background information for feature

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David Jarvis, Belleville, a gir

Sports

B



Bob Emig

East squads playing into upper echelon

Now that things have calmed down from the holiday basketball tournaments, it's time to assess the area's teams. Do we know anything more now than what we did when the teams went searching for holiday glory? Who are the pretenders and who are the contenders?

For the most part, things seemed to fall in order. Belleville East is truly the class of the big schools in both girls and boys basketball. There is no dominant area team in Class A boys basketball, but Carlyle seems to be in another world among the Class A girls squads.

On the periphery among Class AA boys teams are Alton, Mascoutah and Edwardsville. With Belleville East rolling over area clubs at ease, you have to wonder if the Lancers are peaking too soon. Sure, East was expected to be strong again this season after making it to the Elite Eight in Peoria last year. But can the Lancers continue their drive and focus as the season goes on?

Quincy found a way to beat East in overtime in the Collinsville tournament. Will area teams find the same formula? East is certainly a gifted team, with many athletic players on its squad. The Lancers have made it a habit of wearing down area clubs with its kamikaze approach to the game. But by playing at one speed all the time, can they make the necessary adjustments when a team, like Quincy, changes the tempo of the game?

I guess the one rap against the Lancers is that they don't possess a big man. That probably won't hurt them in this area, but when and if they make it to the Elite Eight, a dominating big man or big squad could pose some problems for the Lancers. Alton proved it could play with the big boys in the Centralia tournament. Like the Lancers, the Redbirds are very athletic, but they don't possess the depth that East has. Edwardsville has perhaps the best player in the area in Jim Dougherty, but do the Tigers have enough to build around him? The Mascoutah triumph over Brian Schneider, Kelly Norwood and Ryan Binsbacher have enough firepower to give any team trouble on any given night.

On the girls side, the Lancers have proved to be the team to beat. Unlike their boys counterparts, they have the big player — 6-foot-3 Jessica Jackson — who can dominate a game.

With Courtney Smith leading the way, Carlyle looks like a shoe-in for a second straight state championship. The Indians have the superstar and also a number of good players to go with her.

The muddiest of the pictures is in Class A boys. Freeburg won its own tournament, defeating Venice for the title. Both should be among the area's elite. However, Breese Central, at one time considered the area's best small school, got knocked around in the Mater Dei tournament.

Madison also is in the hunt for top Class A recognition. Only someone with a well-polished crystal ball can predict the powerhouses in this division.

Warriors clip Civic Memorial

By Patrick C. Heston
Staff writer

In basketball, you use your advantage or you lose the game.

The Granite City Warriors used their height advantage effectively Tuesday night and the result was a 64-53 win at Civic Memorial.

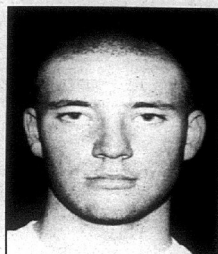
GCHS center Dustin Brewer (6-5) set the pace with a game-best 25 points and 10 offensive rebounds. Ray Smith (6-4) netted 16 points and point guard Kyle Briggs added 11 as the Warriors improved to 4-6 on the season.

CM received 23 points from B.J. Rust (6-3), but had trouble jump-starting its cold 3-point game. GCHS was able to keep the Eagles' perimeter players covered and used its inside size to keep the hosts off the glass.

The Warriors led at every stop, though the Eagles fought back to take the lead on several occasions.

"I was proud of our boys," said GCHS coach John Van Buskirk. "They would bend but not break. Every time Bethalto made a run, we had an answer."

Granite City's two best answers came in the form of offensive rebounds (a whop-



Dustin Brewer
25 pts.

ping 18) and free throw shooting. The Warriors were 18-of-21 from the line for the game (.857) and 13-of-15 (.867) during the crucial fourth quarter.

CM had pulled within five to close the third stanza and the Warriors were able to use their free throw accuracy to widen the gap down the stretch.

"There's no question about it," Van Buskirk said. "Out-

(See WARRIORS, Page 3B)



Ray Smith scored 16 points to help lead GCHS (4-6) past Civic Memorial on Tuesday.

Eagles ease past GCHS

By Patrick C. Heston
Staff writer

The Lady Warriors completely shut out Civic Memorial's high-scoring Jenny Combes Monday night, holding the 5-5 senior point guard to five harmless field goal attempts. The only problem was they couldn't muster any offense of their own against the Eagles' relentless ball-hawking pressure.

In a game sloppy from the start — featuring more turnovers than points in the first 5:30 — CM's choking defense slowly suffocated the Lady Warriors as the Eagles won handily, 53-25, for their eighth win in nine tries.

GCHS never led in the game, though it played almost even through the first eight minutes and trailed only once in the horn. But when CM scored the second quarter's first six points, and 12 of the first 14, the game was essentially over. The Lady Warriors were down 26-12 at the half and 40-19 after three quarters.

The CM defense dominated from start to finish. With 1:40 left in the third period, Granite City still had as many turnovers as points, and turned over the ball a total of 20 times on the night.

When the Lady Warriors did manage to hang onto the ball, they could not connect at the offensive end, shooting a frigid 237 (9-38) for the game.

(See GCHS, Page 3B)

Tigers' press does in Devils

By Patrick C. Heston
Staff writer

A full-court press is a fascinating thing. It can lie dormant for long stretches before erupting suddenly and razing everything in its path. That was the defensive side to the story of East St. Louis Lincoln's 64-53 win at Venice Tuesday night.

The Tigers (6-5) turned up the heat in an already hot gym, forcing a pair of turnovers by the Red Devils (8-3) and scoring six quick points in the last 0:41 of the third quarter to turn a 39-39 tie into a 45-39 advantage heading into the final frame. It broke Venice's back.

"Our press is like that," Lincoln Bennie Lewis said. "We apply pressure constantly. If we play it all night, we know it will eventually do what we ask."

The offensive side to Lincoln's win can be summarized in two names: Kevin Edwards and Kimon Green.

Edwards, a 6-3 sophomore, came off the bench to fire in a game-high 26 points — including three crowd-pleasing slam dunks — and grab 11 rebounds.

Green, a 6-8 senior, pulled off a rare high school triple-double. Aside from garnering 14 points and 10 boards, Green kept the spectators buzzing with 13 blocked shots, most of them slammed with authority.

"Kimon has been getting in foul trouble all season and we have been working with him to avoid fouls and get the blocks," Lewis said. "We have drilled him to simply jump straight up as high as he can when trying to block shots. Tonight it worked."

It wasn't the only thing working for Lincoln.

The Tigers' bench players supplied 44 of their team's 64 points, including 13 in the game's last 6:06, when Lincoln pulled away for good. In fact, Lincoln shot through the city of Lincoln's second-half points.

"We were simply outplayed," confessed Red Devils coach Clinton Harris. "They out-busted, out-shot and out-

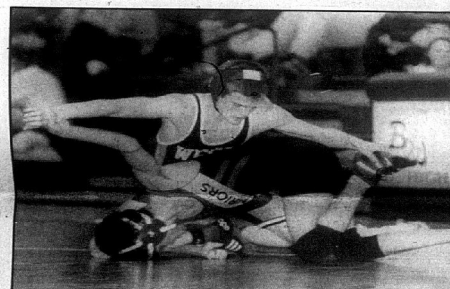


Marcus Allen works in for a shot against Craig Brown of Lincoln during Tuesday's game.

rebounced us. Their press really hurt us the last minute of the third quarter. Those late

turnovers did us in. Lincoln is the best team we've played all

(See DEVILS, Page 3B)



Belleville West's Devon Bernard ties up Matt Werner during the GCHS Holiday Tournament.

Young GCHS passes 'rebuilding' stage

By Patrick C. Heston
Staff writer

With only a handful of lettermen and no state qualifiers returning to start this year's wrestling campaign, it looked like a definite rebuilding project for Granite City coach Mike Garland.

But if you ask the Warriors' mentor whether this really is a rebuilding year for his squad, he will answer "definitely not."

"We're not so much rebuilding as regrouping," Garland said. And if you ask the opponents who have been victimized by the Warriors this season, they would agree.

Granite City registered two more impressive wins at their own Southwestern Conference triangular meet last Friday, sweeping aside Alton (51-15) and East St. Louis Lincoln (71-6) to run its record to 13-0 overall and 4-0 in the SWC.

The victories were even more impressive considering that Garland moved each of

his wrestlers up one weight class to increase their competitiveness. It didn't change the outcome, as the Warriors won handily.

Lincoln's only points in the second match came when GCHS could not fill the 119-pound class.

Freshman 112-pounder Gary Oxford upped his record to 19-3 and solidified his position as the Warriors' point leader. His two wins (18-3 and 15-0) give him 105½ points on the year. Oxford also placed at both the Springfield and GCHS Holiday tournaments.

First-year varsity wrestlers Matt Werner (135 pounds), Brooks Narvaez (145) and Ike Newman (171) each made another strong showing. Newman pinned Alton's Garrett Rottan just 1:08 into the match and finished even earlier against Lincoln, pinning Myron Jones in 39 seconds.

David Thompson, wrestling at 160, pinned Sean Box of Lincoln, also in 39 seconds.

(See WRESTLERS, Page 3B)

Skaters look to break midseason slump

By Brian L. Jones
Correspondent

The Granite City Warriors still hold third place in the C Division of Tier 1 in the Mid-States Club Hockey Association.

That didn't change after their 7-1 loss Monday night to the visiting Ladue (Mo.) Rams, who are not among the top three squads in the six-team division. The Warriors understand the need now to reverse their current three-game winless streak at 0-3-1.

GCHS coaches have said that according to league officials, the top four teams in each division will qualify for the Mid-States playoffs next month. The Warriors have only six remaining regular-season games to fight off the three lower division teams — beginning with an 11:45 p.m. tilt Saturday against Francis Howell at the

Rec Plex in St. Peters, Mo.

Standings are based on overall league records and the Warriors are 6-2-2 for 14 points. But they have not helped themselves by going only 2-5 against division teams, including Hazelwood North, Hazelwood Central, Howell and Whitfield.

"Francis Howell North is in first place ahead of Hazelwood Central and then us," said GCHS assistant coach Mike Scannell. "The other teams have been jockeying back and forth. The way the schedule worked out, those bottom three teams are playing each other a lot at this point in the season. So hopefully they'll knock each other off."

The Warriors were hoping to make their own progress after snapping a three-game losing streak with back-to-back 4-3 wins over Lafayette (Dec. 21) and St. Louis University High (Dec. 30).

SLUH is one of the elite A Division teams in the league, yet the Junior Bills were Granite City's first victim at Wilson Park. The Warriors are only 1-6 this year at their home rink.

"I think we try and play to the home crowd rather than focus on our own game," said GCHS head coach Rick Hodge. "After the SLUH game, we came back (last Friday) and played real well in a 2-2 tie against Vianney (at Webster Groves). Vianney's another (elite) team. That was probably one of our better games against them."

Then came the 8-5 road loss to Howell North on Saturday night, followed by a sluggish first-period start Monday against Ladue.

"We just can't seem to get out of our comfort zone," Hodge said. "We're playing-

(See SKATERS, Page 3B)



Mikal Guffey breaks to the puck. Guffey had the Warriors' lone goal in Monday's loss to Ladue, his 16th of the year. Granite City's next game is Saturday at Francis Howell.

Stats 'n stuff

Journal Writers' Poll Boys Basketball

LARGE SCHOOLS

1. DeSmet (12-1).....60
2. CBC (9-3).....53
3. Belleville East (10-2).....49
4. Parkway Central (12-1).....51
5. Vashon (8-2).....25
6. Hazelwood East (8-1).....23
7. Mascoutah (9-1).....21
8. Lafayette (10-2).....17
9. Riverview Gardens (5-3).....12
10. Troy (10-1).....10

Also receiving votes: St. Charles West (10-2), Edwardsville (7-2), De Soto (9-3), Lindbergh (10-2), Francis Howell North (9-3).

SMALL SCHOOLS

1. John Burroughs (7-1).....55
2. Freeburg (8-3).....54
3. South County Tech (8-0).....51
4. Gibault (7-2).....38
5. Madison (9-3).....31
6. Rosary (8-2).....24
7. Venice (8-2).....22
8. Lutheran South (6-3).....18
9. Lutheran North (8-5).....9
10. Festus (5-2).....8

Also receiving votes: Columbia (6-3), Orchard Farm (8-3), Wellston (5-1), Hillsboro (6-3), St. Charles (5-5), Metro East Lutheran (9-1).

Journal Writers' Poll Girls Basketball

LARGE SCHOOLS

1. Gateway Tech (9-0).....70
2. St. Joseph's (6-2).....57
3. Pattonville (10-0).....52
4. Nerinx Hall (7-2).....44
5. Francis Howell N. (8-2).....42
6. Belleville East (11-2).....39
7. Lincoln (8-2).....28
8. Parkway South (6-2).....17
9. Cor Jesu (6-4).....11
10. Troy (8-2).....11

Also receiving votes: Edwardsville, O'Fallon, Kirkwood.

SMALL SCHOOLS

1. Rosary (10-1).....70
2. Wellston (8-0).....61
3. John Burroughs (5-1).....51
4. Lutheran North (7-1).....46
5. Principia (5-1).....26
6. Windsor (8-1).....22
7. (tie) Lutheran-SC (6-0).....21
7. (tie) Visitation (3-2).....21
7. (tie) Incarnate Word (7-4).....21
10. Eureka (8-1).....18

Also receiving votes: Columbia, Villa DuChesne, Red Bud, DuChesne, Althoff.

Journal Writers' Poll Wrestling

Week of Jan. 8

Team Votes

1. St. Charles West.....66
2. Granite City.....65
3. Fox.....54
4. Oakville.....52
5. Francis Howell.....33
6. Edwardsville.....30
7. Hazelwood Central.....21
8. Parkway South.....19
9. Collinsville.....18
10. Lindbergh.....10

Also receiving votes: Ritenour, DeSmet, Francis Howell North.

MID-STATES CLUB HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

**GRANITE CITY WARRIORS
INDIVIDUAL SCORING**

Player	G	A	Pts
Mikal Guffey	13	9	22
Bob Pritchard	3	14	17
Chris Hatfield	7	8	15
David Miskelley	10	6	12
Bob Harris	7	10	12
Brian Johnson	2	10	12
Bob Meszaros	2	10	12
Bryan Loftus	2	7	9
Todd McDuren	3	5	8
Vince Whittenburg	2	3	5
Ty Suhre	2	3	5
Lenny Wilson	0	5	5
Jon Burns	4	1	5
Dustin Westley	1	4	2
David Sweda	1	1	2
Mike Angle	1	1	2
Scott Garich	1	1	2
Bobby Scott	0	0	0

Goalies

Player	SH	SV	GA
Tony Evans	10	7	3
Matt Frenze	6	5	1
Grobl Lester	0	0	0
Kenny Knott	0	0	0

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(Staff photo by JOHN FRES) Mike Ahlvers looks to pass as Belleville West's Bryan Swift defends. The Warriors are scheduled to play at East St. Louis on Friday.

Boys basketball

METRO BASKETBALL				Cahokia		13		2.8			
				Marion		0-2		1.2			
Cahokia Conference				Southwestern Conference							
Team	Conf	Overall	Team	Conf	Overall	Team	Conf	Overall	Team	Conf	Overall
Breeze C.	3-0	11-2	Belleville E.	5-0	10-2	South County Tech	0-0	8-2	St. Charles West	2-0	5-2
Columbia	3-0	6-3	Alton	3-1	13-3	Gibault	0-0	9-3	St. Joseph's	2-1	8-4
Waterloo	4-1	5-5	E. St. Louis	3-1	3-2	Madison	0-0	9-3	Edwardsville	2-1	8-4
Freeburg	2-1	8-3	Edwardsville	2-2	7-2	Oakville	0-0	6-4	Lincoln	2-2	2-3
Red Bud	2-2	6-5	Lincoln	2-2	5-5	Lovesjoy	0-0	1-0	Belleville W.	2-2	2-3
Duqu	1-1	5-5	Belleville W.	2-2	2-3				Granite City	1-4	3-6
New Athens	1-1	3-7	Granite City	1-4	3-6				Collinsville	0-5	4-7
Carlyle	0-2	3-10	Collinsville	0-5	4-7						
Lebanon	0-2	2-7									
Marissa	0-4	2-8									
Weston	0-2	2-9									
South Seven Conference				Independents							
Team	Conf	Overall	Team	Conf	Overall	Team	Conf	Overall	Team	Conf	Overall
Centralia	2-0	5-2	Venice			South County Tech	0-0	8-2	St. Charles West	2-0	5-2
Ofallon	2-1	5-4	Gibault			Gibault	0-0	9-3	St. Joseph's	2-1	8-4
Mt. Vernon	2-1	2-3	Madison			Madison	0-0	9-3	Edwardsville	2-1	8-4
			Oakville			Oakville	0-0	6-4	Lincoln	2-2	2-3
			Lovesjoy			Lovesjoy	0-0	1-0	Belleville W.	2-2	2-3

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Sports shorts

Wrestlers place 6th
The Granite City Wrestling Club placed sixth in the Midwest Classic Tournament in Tinley Park (Ill.), held the first weekend of January. The team competed against 37 other squads from Illinois and Indiana. The sixth-place finish came despite four forfeitures due to weight classes not being filled.

Granite City produced five medalists at the Classic — Troy Howell (55 pounds), Austin Wagoner (58 pounds), Jake Triant (64 pounds), Justin York (156 pounds) and David Crouch (275 pounds). Triant and York both placed fourth, while heavyweight David Crouch placed second.

"The Midwest Classic is a prelude for the state tournament," said coach Tom Nance. "We are very excited about our finish, and know that we will do even better once we get wrestlers in each weight class."

Elks Hoop Shoot
Local competition for the 25th Annual Elks Hoop Shoot, the national free throw shooting contest for youngsters ages 8-13, will be held 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 11 at Coolidge Middle School.

More than 3 million youngsters throughout the country entered last year's competition for boys and girls in three age categories, 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13. Each contestant will get 25 shots. The boy and girl in each age group with the best score advance through four tiers of competition to qualify for the national finals in Indianapolis.

Local winners will take on other contestants in the district event Jan. 25 at SIUE. Names of the national winners will be inscribed on the Elks National Hoop Shoot plaque on display at the Naim Smith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass.

K of C contest

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a free-throw contest beginning at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19 at the K of C Hall, located at 4225 Old Alton Road in Granite City.

Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. Boys and girls ages 10-14 years are eligible, and proof of age is required. Winners will advance to the next level. For more information, call Bob Palus at 451-8988.

Park league sign-ups
The Granite City Park District is now taking registration for boys and girls wanting to play youth baseball, tee-ball or ponyball softball this summer.

The sign-ups are for boys and girls who would like to play in the 1997 summer park leagues but are not currently on a park district team or have never played in the park district leagues.

Boys and girls who will be ages 6-16 may have their name placed on the list. Every effort will be made to place them on a team.

Boys and girls tee-ball is for ages 6-7, youth baseball is for ages 8-16 and ponyball softball is for ages 8-16. New teams are formed from the compiled list. Names on the list are also used by managers of existing teams that need to fill their rosters.

Anyone interested in coaching or managing a youth baseball, tee-ball or ponyball softball team may visit the Wilson Park office or call Ray Hoffman at 309-3059.

Soccer registration
Open registration for the Granite City Soccer Club will be held every Tuesday and Thursday in January from 6 to 8 p.m. at the soccer complex concessions building, located at Illinois 3 and North Street.

Registration is for boys and girls born 1983 through 1992. Children born in 1993 may register for the instructional fun soccer camp. If interested,

call 876-9000.

Lightning tryouts
The Lightning U-14 soccer team will hold tryouts for approximately five positions 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 11 at St. Albert's and Wednesday, Jan. 15 at an undetermined time and place.

The team is managed and coached by Daniel Nelson, who played soccer at Belleville East High School and McKendree College. The team's other coaches are Alex Ramos, who played at Belleville East and Washington University, and Carlos Ramos, who played at East and St. Louis U.

For more information about the tryouts, call 277-5791 or 233-6762. Any players currently on an SISL team must have their coach's permission to try out.

The Lightning will also host the second annual Mid-America Tournament in May. Last year, the tournament drew more than 120 teams to the area to compete in various age brackets. For information about the tournament, call Gary Bement at 277-5172 or Gregg Crawford at 224-7053.

Cougars tourney
The Florissant Cougars' annual soccer tournament will be held Feb. 17-March 2 at the Jamestown Sports Complex. The competition is for boys and girls K1 through U-18.

For entry information, call Jim Pool at (314) 831-2940 or Jeff Schilly at (314) 831-2836. The deadline to register is Feb. 1.

All-star tryouts
The St. Louis International Youth Baseball Association will select an all-star team to play baseball in Australia in March 1997. The team is open to boys born March 30, 1985, or later.

For more information, call Al Bond at (314) 848-3032.

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(Staff photo by JOHN FRESE)

Belleville East's Jessica Jackson drives to the basket as Kara Coleman defends underneath.

•GCHS

(Continued from Page 18)

Carrie Simpson (8 points) was the only GCHS player to connect on more than one field goal after the first quarter. She was followed in scoring by Jessica Wallace (7 points) and Sarah Coleman (6 points).

With the normally hot Combes not connecting, CM relied early on the outside punch of Valerie McCoy and Cristin Capps and rode the inside power of 6-1 sophomore Mindy Blackburn down the stretch. Together, McCoy (16 points) and Blackburn (13 points) outscored the entire GCHS squad.

But there were several highlights for the Lady Warriors. Jessica Wallace, a 5-9 fresh-

man, was in Jenny Combes' face the entire night, totally frustrating the Eagles' leading scorer. And Carrie Simpson's textbook jumpers kept her team within striking distance early in the third frame.

But with the other four starters contributing only a free throw between them during the eight-minute stretch, it wasn't long before CM pulled away for good.

The Lady Warriors will return to action Friday at home against East St. Louis.

•Skaters

(Continued from Page 18)

ing catchup hockey all the time."

Ladue outshot the Warriors 13-5 in the first period, scoring twice on goals just 39 seconds into the game and with 10 seconds left before the intermission. The Rams added two more goals in the second period and outshot the hosts 15-6.

"That's the same thing they did the first time they played us," Scannell said of Ladue, which beat the Warriors 6-0 on Nov. 12 at Queeny Park.

"They always come out real strong and quick. A lot of times we don't come out with that same kind of charge. It was a tough week for the guys playing three games in four nights against three very good teams."

The Warriors' lone goal against Ladue was tallied by centerman Mikal Guffey with 10:49 left in the third period. Senior linemates Chris Hatfield and Dave Miskelley assisted.

Ladue added three more goals in the last 10 minutes, taking advantage of six third-period penalties against Granite City.

The Rams fired 25 more shots at goalie Tony Evans for a total game advantage of 54-14. That topped the previous season high for shots allowed by GCHS, which had been a 52 Saturday by Howell North.

"We were kind of hurting on defense with our senior Brian Johnson (left) and center Vince Whittenburg (sprained wrist) out of the lineup," Scannell said. "One of our defensive pairings (Monday) was a sophomore, Lenny Wilson, with a freshman, Bobby Messaros. The other pairing was two sophomores, Scott Sarich and Bobby Scott. Bobby Scott's going to be a very good player, but this was only about his fourth game with us since he (re)joined the team."

While the Warriors are only 2-5-1 since December, a handful of top players continue to shine with career seasons. Guffey leads the division in goals (16) and also has 11 assists for a team-high 27 points. Hatfield has 10 goals and 20 points.

Other top scorers, with totals excluding the Vianney game, have been junior winger Bobby Harris (12 goals, 2 assists), junior center Rob Pritchard (3 goals, 14 assists), winger Miskelley (6 goals, 1 assist), and sophomore winger Jon Burns (4 goals, 1 assist).

"We're getting the individual efforts, but haven't been able to put it all together as a team," Hise said. "We're not using our speed to our advantage. The top priority right now is trying get some wins. We really haven't even talked about playoffs yet."

Scannell predicts a turnaround in the last six games. "We should end up above .500, which is what we're shooting for," Scannell said. "We really are capable of beating anyone on a given night."

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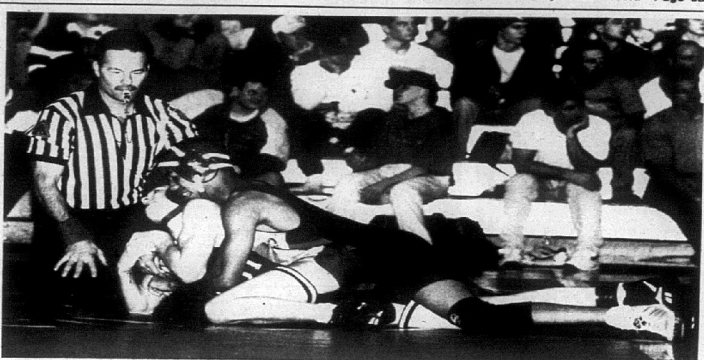
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(Staff photo by JOHN FRESE)

Mike Glover battles Belleville West's Ryan Tyler in a 119-pound match.

•Wrestlers

(Continued from Page 18)

"Our goal is to get these young kids to state," Garland said. "That's how we build confidence for the future. And it is important to see that our seniors, who have worked so hard for so many years, also make state. We're getting ready for February by getting better each day and each week."

Jonas Janek (18-3) won by forfeit against Alton and then won by fall at 1:01 of the period over Lincoln's Joel King.

Nick Campbell won both of

his heavyweight matches, with first and second-period pins respectively. Freshman George Kirgan lost a heartbreaking 4-3 decision to Alton's Corey Waltz before winning by forfeit against Lincoln.

Kevin Venne (18-3), who already has a team-leading 12 pins and two tournament titles under his belt, did not wrestle Friday. Garland's across-the-board shifts meant Venne would have had to wrestle as a heavyweight rather than at his normal 189-pound spot.

For Garland, it was just another weekend of preparation for the state tournament

— not to mention Civic Memorial, which dethroned the three-time defending champion Warriors in last month's Holiday tournament.

"Dual and tournament scoring are different," Garland said. "We beat Bethalto in a dual meet earlier and we know that we will see them again in the regionals. As long as we continue to improve weekly, we'll be ready."

Granite City's next match is Friday at Belleville East. On Saturday, the Warriors will wrestle at Chatham Glenwood against Quincy and the host Redskins.

•Devils

(Continued from Page 18)

year. Their 5-4 record is very deceptive."

"We're good when we're on," Lewis cautioned after the game. "Our problem is that we play like this one night and the next night play terribly. If we can become consistent, we will be a hard team to beat."

The teams played to a 12-12 standoff after one quarter, but Lincoln built a 22-15 lead four minutes into the second session and appeared ready to take full command of the game. But Venne roared back on the strength of Marcus Allen's hot hand and eventually drew even on a LaRon Cole free throw at the 0:28 mark. Ronald Madison's six-footer in the paint ended the first half, putting Lincoln up by a bucket, 27-25.

The third quarter was equally tight until the Tigers' press forced Venice to crack in the final minute. And when Lincoln opened the fourth quarter with a 17-6 run, Venice was down 62-45 with only 3:00 left.

Marcus Allen led the Venice attack with eight boards and 24 points, including his team's last 10. Jammie Edwards chipped in 10 points, and Kevin Roberts was solid with eight points, seven rebounds and three assists.

But it was not enough to offset Lincoln's dominating duo of Edwards and Green, who combined for 40 points, 21 rebounds and 14 blocks.



(Staff photo by JOHN FRESE)

Venice guard Kevin Roberts drives inside as teammate Charles Cotton (34) looks on.

•Warriors

(Continued from Page 18)

free throws and our size were the difference in the game. Any time you have the height advantage we had against Bethalto, it is going to make a big difference."

Things won't be as easy Friday night as the Warriors return to Southwestern Conference action at East St. Louis. The Flyers (3-6) are coming off Saturday's 64-43 win over crosstown rival Lincoln.

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Horoscope

Friday, Jan. 9
Expect the unexpected today as the moon joins Uranus in unpredictable Aquarius. This is the time you need to think on your feet. Aquarius events come without warning and challenge our ability to handle situations without preparation. Try not to get flustered, the solutions are there, but powerful thinking will undoubtedly be required.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
An old friend makes your wish come true. Visit hot spots, even if you think you won't fit in. You have universal appeal. A Pisces comes through for you and earns your loyalty. Evidence of love comes this evening.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You are the leader of your own schedule, so stop falling prey to excuses. Leave room in this weekend's activities for some quiet time alone. Continue giving all you've got to the cause you believe in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
You are clever and can prevent someone's hard cap. Put ideas into action this weekend. Weekend plans include an out-of-town jaunt for relaxation or business. Your family looks to you for leadership.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
There is a responsibility that comes with your popularity. Consider who is worthy of your time. New acquaintances bring lucky breaks. Good ideas are easy to decipher from bad ones, so use your head.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You are hard on yourself, not taking into consideration all that you give. Running all day, you

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never feel you've caught up. Take time to evaluate your progress. It's amazing. Results come from important work done last week.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 9)
Overcome a tremendous obstacle this month and you'll take up residence on Easy Street for the remainder of the year. Dazzling new business prospects involve a Taurus or Cancer. Good advertising is the key to success in February.

March's success is mostly of a romantic nature. You put your fears aside and fall in love. Likely candidates are Sagittarius and Pisces. Profits skyrocket by August.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Get help with details because your time is better spent elsewhere. Don't worry about your health, but do walk to a healthy lunch. Amazing events unfold on the romance front; one who makes a play for you may be older.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Exaggeration makes you funny. A significant chapter is

closed in a family relationship, setting you free from a burdensome responsibility. Your boss makes life rough for your partner or mate, so be the gentle comforter.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
You can be the king or queen of calm if you need to be. Find 10 ways to keep the temper in check and your life improves drastically. Kids are wonderful. Psychological insights give you an edge over romantic competition.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
No one worries about whether or not you can do it—you're on top of it. Challenge the old school of thought even if it's someone you love who's thinking this way. Evening plans are highbrow. Dress up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
If you can't convince the rest of the team, don't beat your head against the wall. Just try again next week. You can change a romantic relationship by embracing a new concept. A clinging family member must be coddled.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Use your vocabulary. Go easy on authority figures and parents. Let a stubborn child stew in his or her own juice. Others see you as a blur, reacting by your way to success. Romantic overtures require careful handling.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Your famous intuition isn't as reliable as usual, so don't jump to conclusions. Social gatherings are stimulating and may bring hot prospects. One warning: Don't be too sharp or overcritical with others.



Tonya Carpenter and Jonathan Beasley

Christina Krakowiecki and Rick Searcy

Catherine Modrusic and Christopher Nolan

Carpenter-Beasley

Tonya M. Carpenter, daughter of Rebecca and Carl Dahm of Granite City, and Jonathan M. Beasley, son of Joan Beasley of Granite City and Mark Beasley of Glen Carbon, have announced their engagement.

Carpenter, a 1994 graduate of Granite City High School, is currently enrolled at Belleville Area College's Granite City campus working toward an associate's degree in business administration. She is employed as a clerk by the city of Granite City's Building and Zoning Department.

Beasley, a 1992 graduate of Granite City High School, attended Belleville Area College as a welding technology student and is employed by John Sakash Co. of Granite City as a certified chain welder.

The couple plans to marry within the next two years.

Krakowiecki-Searcy

Christina Krakowiecki, daughter of Casey and Georgann Krakowiecki of Granite City, and Rick Searcy, son of James Searcy of Minot, N.D., and Kayleen Searcy of Elkhart, Ind., have announced their engagement.

Krakowiecki, a 1989 graduate of Granite City High School and a 1993 graduate of the University of Notre Dame, is employed with Hughes Electronics of Tucson, Ariz., as a computer engineer. She is also starting her own computer animation business.

Searcy earned his bachelor's degree from General Motors Institute in 1991, his master's degree from the University of Michigan in 1994, and is completing his doctoral work. He is employed with Delco Products of Tucson, Ariz., as a systems integration engineer.

An April 1997 wedding planned.

Modrusic-Nolan

Catherine Maria Modrusic, daughter of Andy and Jane Modrusic of Granite City, and Christopher Nolan of Collinsville, son of Benny and Olivia Nolan of Granite City, have announced their engagement.

Modrusic, a 1990 graduate of Granite City High School and a 1994 graduate of Belleville Area College's medical assistant program, is employed by Merit Behavioral Care of Maryland Heights, Mo., as a processor.

Nolan, a 1989 graduate of Granite City High School and a 1994 graduate of St. John's Mercy Medical Center, he is employed by St. Louis University Medical Center as a radiographer.

An August 1997 wedding is being planned.



Sharon and Kenneth Theis

Harris - Hetherington

Janet Hetherington and H. Patrick Harris were married Oct. 7, 1996, at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Ferguson in Eureka Springs, Ark.

The ceremony, performed by the Rev. Ferguson, took place outside in the gazebo.

The couple spent the remainder of their stay in Arkansas sightseeing. Both Janet and Patrick are employed as service representatives of the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

Upon returning to Granite City, the newlyweds were honored with a dinner hosted by the groom's father, Howard "Lefty" Harris, at Charlie's restaurant. Members of both families attended.

Brown - 50 years

On Oct. 26, the children and grandchildren of Wilbert and Angie Brown were hosts to a golden anniversary party held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Granite City.

Before the party, the couple renewed their vows during a Mass at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church.

Music for the dinner-dance was furnished by Dave Hylla and his band.

Guests included friends and relatives from Granite City, Stanton, Viridian, Springfield, Glen Carbon, Alton, Wood River, Hartford, St. Louis and California.

The Browns are the parents of two children, Cathy Burdge of Granite City and Larry Brown of Joplin. They have four grandchildren, Ashley and Christopher Burdge, and Melissa and Nathan Brown.

Contact us

Forms for free bridal announcements are available at the paper, 1815 Delmar Ave., Granite City, Ill. 62040. Contact us at 876-2000.

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Marriage licenses

The office of Debbie Saltich, Madison County Clerk, recently issued the following marriage licenses:

*Robert L. Burgess and Carol L. Chiappa, both of Granite City.

*Daniel P. Burk, East Alton, and Tricia L. Hillard, Marysville.

*Christopher G. Christen and Joany L. Evans, both of Granite City.

*Brain S. Davis and Janet L. Lyles, both of Belleville.

*Paul Dees, Hamel, and Jan R. Besaw, Edwardsville.

*Rodney A. Dunaway and Janet L. Elliott, both of Collinsville.

*Dennis Dunn Jr., and Kimberly P. Biggins, both of Collinsville.

*Jerry W. Endicott II and Kathryn M. Scaturro, both of Granite City.

*Christopher G. Christen and Joany L. Evans, both of Granite City.

*Brain S. Davis and Janet L. Lyles, both of Belleville.

*Paul Dees, Hamel, and Jan R. Besaw, Edwardsville.

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*Dennis Dunn Jr., and Kimberly P. Biggins, both of Collinsville.

*Jerry W. Endicott II and Kathryn M. Scaturro, both of Granite City.

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SAT. & SUN. MATS 1:00, 2:15
NIGHTLY 7:00, 9:15

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NIGHTLY 7:00, 9:15

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FRIDAY, JAN. 10th
4:00 to 7:00 P.M.
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THE LAW AND YOU
By RICK REED
Attorney At Law

How important is it to give a complete medical history on a life insurance application? Must the applicant list every doctor ever visited as well as every hospitalization? This question was answered in a recent case decided by an Illinois Appellate Court.

In this case, a woman sued the Prudential Life Insurance Company for its failure to pay her the \$100,000 in proceeds under a life insurance policy when her husband died. Prudential filed a counterclaim and sought to cancel the policy based on the assertion that her deceased husband made a misrepresentation in the original application.

The facts of this case are that the decedent filled out an application for a life insurance with Prudential in May of 1985. He underwent a required medical exam. A registered nurse asked the applicant questions about his medical history, and the nurse wrote the responses on the application.

In response to the question regarding hospitalization, the nurse wrote that the decedent was hospitalized in 1965 for stomach ulcers. However, the applicant was also hospitalized three times for major depressive disorders, but he failed to mention this to the examining nurse. At the bottom of the applica-

tion was a statement that indicated, "I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above statements are complete and true." Below this statement appeared the decedent's signature.

When the applicant died, Prudential refused to pay the \$100,000 in death benefits. The trial Court found that the decedent misrepresented on the application by failing to disclose the three hospitalizations for nervous disorders, and that this misrepresentation was "material to the risk." The Court found that Prudential would have likely rejected the application originally had it known about the hospitalizations.

In this case, the wife of the applicant tried to argue on appeal that her husband gave the nurse a complete history, but the nurse failed to record all the details. The Appellate Court felt it was important that the decedent signed an affidavit at the bottom of the application indicating that the application was complete and true. The lesson to be learned from this case is that it is important to be completely forthright and honest when filling out a life insurance application or health insurance application. Misrepresentations can be used by the company later as a basis to deny any claim that is made.

RICK REED
Attorney At Law
Cahokia 1408 Cahokia Jackson 332-0070
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